

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 03540 180433Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 180320Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5660

UNCLAS TAIPEI 3540

USDOC FOR OIM/FE--SONNE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TW

SUBJECT: CURRENT ROC DUTIES ON REFRIGERATION AND AIR  
CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT

REF: USDOC 09006

96/12/75

1. CHIEF OF TAX REGULATIONS OFFICE, INSPECTORATE GENERAL OF  
CUSTOMS INFORMED TC THAT ON MARCH 28, 1975 IMPORT DUTY ON ALL  
ITEMS LISTED REFTEL PARA 2 INCREASED FROM 45 PERCENT TO  
60 PERCENT.

2. PAGES 52, 56 AND 85 OF "HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT"  
STUDY INDICATE THAT ROC WILL LOOK TO FOREIGN SOURCES FOR  
COMMERCIAL FREEZERS, REFRIGERATORS AND AIR CONDITIONING  
SYSTEMS. RECENT TALKS WITH TAIPEI HOTEL ASSOCIATION  
REVEAL THAT WHILE SMALL HOTELS IN TAIPEI UTILIZE LOCALLY MADE  
SUBJECT EQUIPMENT, 59 PERCENT OF THE LARGE HOTELS USE FOREIGN  
MADE EQUIPMENT. UNTIL ROC'S TECHNOLOGY IS SUFFICIENT TO  
MANUFACTURE DEPENDABLE, EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS,  
FREEZERS AND AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEMS FOR INSTALLATION IN HOTELS,  
RESTAURANTS, FACTORIES, SUPERMARKETS, OFFICE BUILDINGS AND  
HOSPITALS, LOCAL END USERS WILL CONTINUE TO PURCHASE FROM FOREIGN  
SOURCES.

3. LOCAL INDUSTRY SEEKS TO INCREASE THE VOLUME AND ENHANCE  
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THE QUALITY OF PRODUCTION OF SUBJECT EQUIPMENT. PRODUCTION

OF AIR-CONDITIONERS FROM JANUARY TO APRIL, 1975 INCREASED 27.6 PERCENT. PRODUCTION OF REFRIGERATORS OVER THE SAME PERIOD INCREASED 25 PERCENT.

CLEARLY, THE MARCH, 1975 DUTY HIKE IS INTENDED TO PROTECT THE EXPANSION OF LOCAL PRODUCTION OF SUBJECT EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, AT TIME OF OCTOBER EVENT, DOMESTIC INDUSTRY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY LOCAL DEMAND FOR SUBJECT EQUIPMENT. THEREFORE, TC DOES NOT AGREE THAT INCREMENTAL DUTY WILL INHIBIT U.S. SALES IN NEAR FUTURE. SINCE DUTY HIKE APPLIES TO ALL FOREIGN SOURCES, U.S. MANUFACTURERS' MARKET POSITION VIS-A-VIS THIRD COUNTRY COMPETITORS SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Reference:** 75 USDOC 09006  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 FEB 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 FEB 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CURRENT ROC DUTIES ON REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT  
**TAGS:** BEXP, TW  
**To:** COM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006